**“Explain how the novel Coraline is typical of the gothic form, giving examples from the book to support your discussion.”**

The novel “Coraline” was written by Neil Gaiman. “Coraline” the book is about a protagonist named Coraline who moves to a new home, at this new home she finds a small door that is a tunnel to another world. In the other world there is an antagonist that wants Coraline to stay there forever. The novel Coraline is typical of the gothic form. In gothic literature there are many gothic features that make it gothic. There are many gothic features in “Coraline”. They are the settings, the foreshadowing and omens and the nightmarish events.

The gothic setting of a story is the place or location where the gothic story takes place. These places usually give a vibe of darkness or mysteriousness. Many gothic settings include mansions, abandoned houses, castles and basements or attics. The gothic setting may also include different conditions like mist, lightning or rain. A gothic setting is used to pull readers in making them feel like they are there, in a creepy and dark place, In Coraline the gothic settings is the old large house that Coraline moves into. There is also the overgrown old abandoned garden outside the house. Coraline travels down the dark tunnel and meets the antagonist. There is also the dark mysterious bottomless well. Overall gothic settings allow readers to imagine they are in the place the protagonist is in, usually in the places some sort of foreshadowing or bad omen will worn the protagonist of danger.

Foreshadowing is used in gothic stories to warn the protagonist that danger is approaching. Omens or visions can be used as a way of foreshadowing. Foreshadowing might be used to predict a foreboding event will occur soon. In the gothic literature foreshadowing creates a suspenseful atmosphere for readers. Readers will feel suspense, worry, or curiousness if something bad is going to happen to the protagonist. Coraline shows many forms of foreshadowing. When Miss Spink and Miss Forcible give Coraline a tea leaves reading, they are telling the readers and also Coraline that she might meet danger, this is foreshadowing. Then many bad omens can also foreshadow events, like the stone with the hole, the black cat and the mice’s warning message to Coraline Therefore many gothic stories use foreshadowing to give ideas to readers and make them feel suspense. Foreshadowing may be used to foreshadow unexpected or nightmarish events that are dark and scary, thus Coraline is typical of the gothic genre!

Unexpected or nightmarish events are put in gothic stories to scare the protagonist and thus scare the readers as well. Unexpected or nightmarish events are usually put in at the least expected time to surprise readers. These events can be described in different ways to make them feel wicked or dreadful. Unexpected or nightmarish events can include monsters, dismembered body parts or things coming back alive. Coraline demonstrates many of these events. When Coraline meets her other mother who gives her all she wants but the other mother has creepy button eyes. As she stays longer in this world there are talking animals. The other mother then shows her real side of evil and unleashes her nightmarish monsters onto Coraline. Her other mother proceeds to capture Coraline’s parents and puts them in a snow globe. The other mother reveals her true scary form and when Coraline thinks she is defeated, especially when the dismembered hand of the other mother, comes back to life all of these are unexpected and nightmarish events. Unexpected or nightmarish events make gothic stories scary and surprising and also give a dark atmosphere to the book.

Coraline shows it is quite a gothic style story by including different gothic features. The story describes there is a dark gothic setting where it foreshadows unexpected or nightmarish events. From this readers can tell that Coraline is a gothic story.

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